

Upper Potomac Tributary Team

February 2005

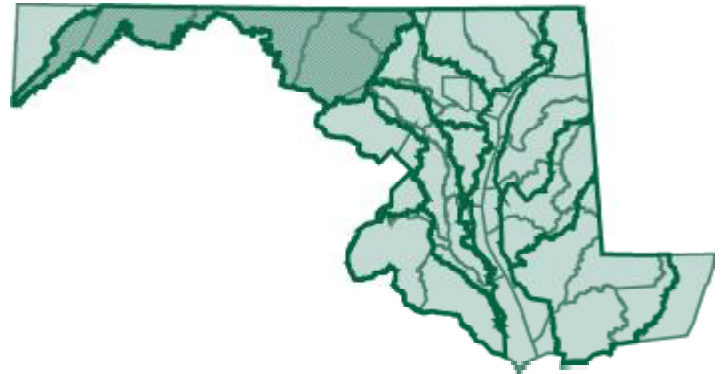
About the Watershed:

The Upper Potomac Watershed includes Maryland's western most portion of Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The basin covers the eastern side of Garrett County; all of Allegany, Washington, and Frederick Counties; and half of Carroll County. At approximately 2,050 square miles of land, it is the largest of all of Maryland's Tributary Team basins. Land use varies tremendously throughout the basin but is dominated by agriculture and forest lands in the west and increasing development around the Frederick area in the east. Upper Potomac Tributary Team priorities include agricultural nutrient management, stream restoration, and diversifying stakeholder participation in the revision of the Upper Potomac Tributary Strategy.

About the Team:

The mission of the Upper Potomac Tributary Team is to reduce nutrient and sediment inputs and to restore habitat in the Upper Potomac Watershed through community participation. The team believes it can make the most effective contributions to protecting and restoring the Upper Potomac Watershed by focusing on the following four themes:

- Stream Restoration and Reforestation Projects: work with organizations and landowners to accomplish stream restoration and reforestation projects.



- Environmental Education, Public Awareness, and Stakeholder Outreach: promote awareness of the need for and the benefits of water quality protection and restoration.
- Environmental Public Policy Forum: bring together citizens and local government officials with state and federal government experts to discuss water quality restoration policies, their implications, and the best means to implement them.
- Agricultural Issues: work with the agricultural community to promote practices that protect and restore water quality.

Recent Accomplishments:

- In 2004, the team sponsored a day of the Potomac Sojourn trip. This involved providing educational and outreach activities for over 80 participants.
- A tour of Agriculture BMPs and Innovative Farm Practices in the Upper Potomac Basin took place in 2003.
- The team works closely with local watershed organizations and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation to do restoration and riparian buffer projects in the Monocacy watershed, Catoclin watershed, Antietam watershed, Bear Creek watershed and others.

- Sponsored a WRAS workshop for Bear Creek with Washington County local government in 2004.
- In 2002, the team completed an effective outreach campaign to farmers in the Upper Potomac Basin that resulted in the addition of five new members from the agricultural community on the team.

For More Information:

For more information, contact Carrie Decker, team coordinator, at 410-260-8723. You can also visit the program's website at www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/.



The Upper Potomac Team has sponsored several riparian buffer projects since its inception, including this one on a tributary of Town Creek in Allegany County.



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Team Members

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Team Participants

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